

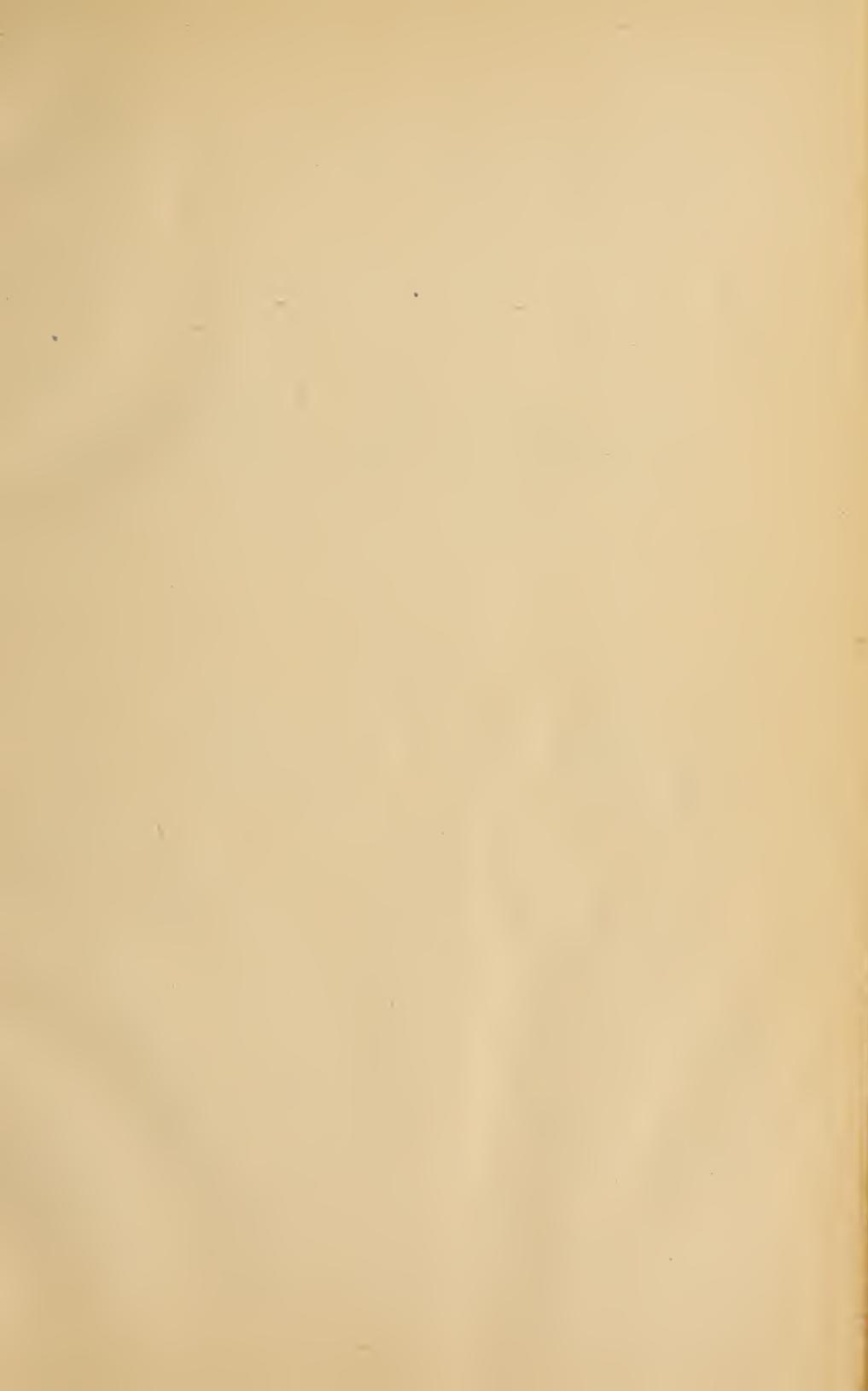
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SOME ELEMENTS

OF

HEBREW GRAMMAR.

BY THE

Rev. RANDALL C. HALL, A.M.,

PROFESSOR OF HEBREW IN THE GENERAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

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TONE OR ACCENT.

I. When the tone is on the ultimate, a word is called milra (from below); when on the penult, it is called milel (from above). The tone is never further back than the penult, *i. e.*, two syllables. Vocal sh'va counts half a syllable. [Hence a sh'va after the tone is usually silent, except in many cases when a conjunctive recedes before a disjunctive.]

The tone is called *Recessive*, when it is as far back as rules permit.

II. No tone on :

1. a letter with sh'va simple or compound.
2. a syllable with **נ** local.

III. GENERAL RULES OF POSITION :

1. A long vowel in a mixed syllable must have tone.

2. A short vowel cannot stand in a pure syllable without tone or else metheg. [In a pure syllable a short vowel takes metheg if the vowel is a preformative vowel, in conformity with a compound sh'va. See III. 5.]

3. A long vowel has preference over a short one in taking tone.

4. *Ceteris paribus* the tone is on the ultimate rather than on the penult.

5. A pure syllable takes metheg if followed by a sh'va or by a vowel which has arisen from sh'va, or if in the second place before the tone. [Metheg occurs, too, in mixed syllables, sometimes without apparent explanation. Hence in such a form as קְטַלּוּ the absence of metheg proves the first syllable mixed and kamets therefore short by I. of vowel and consonant changes, but the presence of metheg would not prove the first syllable pure or kamets long.]

IV. POSITION ON VERBS.

1. The vowel of the second radical takes the tone when rules permit.

2. In the preterit singular 1st and 2d masculine with vav conversive the tone is on the ultimate to distinguish from the same persons and tense with vav conjunctive.

3. The future 2d and 3d singular with vav conversive takes tone on penult if the penult is pure and the ultimate mixed.

4. Some apocopated futures being properly segolates follow the rule for segolates.

This rule is—Helping vowels do not take tone.

V. SUFFIXES AND AFFIXES.

1. An incomplete syllable, *e. g.*, **אָם** (am) added to a *noun* will take tone on itself.

2. An incomplete syllable added to a *verb*, (a) if affix, will take recessive tone ; (b) if suffix, will draw the tone forward one syllable.

3. The addition of a pure syllable takes recessive tone.

4. A mixed syllable takes tone on itself.

Syllables are divided into :

1. Mixed or close. Such begin and end with a consonant.

2. Pure or open or simple. Such begin with a consonant and end with a vowel.

A syllable is called incomplete, when it begins without a consonant.

Participles, adjectives, and prepositions are accented as nouns.

Suffixes are fragmentary pronouns, *e. g.*, **הָרָא** (her (horse)), **הָרָא** (he killed) him.

Affixes are personal inflections of verbs and terminations of gender and number in verbs and nouns, *e. g.*, **הָרָה** (she (horse)) **הָרָה** (they (killed)).

VOWEL AND CONSONANT CHANGES.

1. The vowels *i* and *u* and the sign τ (kamets) are short in unaccented mixed syllables. Otherwise they are long. [But with metheg in a simple syllable τ may be a conforming vowel and therefore short. This rule is to be compared with III. 5, of Tone.]
2. B'gad c'phath letters take daghesh lene when not preceded by a vowel sound in close connection.

Final *ca*, *cem*, and *cen* never take daghesh lene.

3. Pure vowels are *a* *i* *u*
 Diphthongal vowels are *e* *o*
 - a) In accented syllables before a double consonant or before two consonants, diphthongal are preferred to pure vowels.
 - b) In unaccented syllables before a double consonant the pure vowels *i* and *u* are preferred to diphthongal *e* and *o*.
4. A final guttural must have either the “*a*” sound before it or furtive patahh under it.

5. A guttural (especially if unaccented) between two “a” sounds will often cause the first “a” to become segol, or the second “a” to become segol.
6. Before the plural terminations **וַיִ**. and **תִ** segolates take pretonic kamets and drop their first vowel.
7. Segolates revert to their primitive form:
 - a) in the singular before all suffixes;
 - b) before the termination **תְ**;
 - c) in the construct plural and dual;
 - d) generally in the absolute dual.

N.B.—Rule 7 takes precedence when conflicting with other rules.

8. Before the plural and dual terminations and before the feminine terminations **תְ** the following changes take place:
 - a) In the ultimate, tsere is rejected, except in a monosyllable or in a syllable preceded by kamets.

b) Kamets and tsere in the penult are rejected if in the resulting form they come in the antepenult.

N.B.—Before the dual termination, the feminine singular reverts to its primitive termination **תִ**. Caution: apply the rule before making the addition.

9. CONSTRUCT STATE.

a) In a mixed final syllable, kamets is shortened to patahh, and so is tsere, if preceded by kamets.

b) Kamets and tsere before the tone are rejected.

Note. Sh'va is vocal in construct plural and dual, when resulting from dropping a pretonic vowel.

10. BEFORE SUFFIXES.

a) Before the grave suffixes (cem, cen, hem and hen) all nouns take construct state.

b) Before light suffixes, feminine nouns, singular and plural, take construct state.

c) Before light suffixes, masculine nouns, singular and plural, take the same form as before the absolute plural termination.

d) Before light suffixes dual nouns take the same form as before the absolute dual termination.

VERBS.

11. If the future kal is middle a, the imperative is middle a.

12. Verbs ayin gut., lamed gut., and lamed aleph have future and imperative kal middle a.

13. In verbs pe nun, when the nun is pointed with sh'va and is at the end of a syllable,

the nun may be dropped and the next letter take daghesh to compensate. The nun of the kal imperative is usually dropped if middle a, never if middle o. Nun is dropped in kal infinitive construct of but few verbs, and then it takes the feminine termination **תְּ**, and is of segolate formation.

14. In verbs lamed gut., tsere (ׂ) before the gut. is changed to patahh, except in infinitive absolute and participle.
15. In verbs ayin ayin, when 1st radical is pointed with sh'va, the 2d may be dropped and its vowel given to the first. In developing, make the additions to the contracted 3d sing. masculine, in the imperative to the contracted 2d sing. masculine.
16. In verbs ayin ayin and ayin vav, the preformative takes a long vowel in future kal, preterit niphil, and throughout hiphil and hophal, when not affected by the shifting of the tone. This rule is not used in developing forms, but only to show results.
17. In verbs ayin ayin and some parts of verbs ayin vav, before an affirmative beginning with a nun or thav, an epenthetic vowel is added, viz. **וְ** in preterit, **וּ** **וְ** in future and imperative.
18. In verbs pe yod properly pe vav, there are

two subdivisions in *kal* future, imperative, and infinitive construct. In the first subdivision the *yod* of the root is dropped in these parts ; the preformative of the future has *tsere*, and the infinitive construct has the termination **נ** and is of *segolate* formation.

In the second subdivision the *yod* of the root is kept in, the future is middle *a*, and its preformative has *i* (ִ). The *vav* is restored in *niphil*, *hiphil*, and *hophal*.

19. When two vocal *shva*'s come together, for the first a short vowel is substituted.

If the first be a compound *sh'va*, its homogeneous vowel is substituted.

If the second be a compound *sh'va*, the previous syllable conforms, *i. e.*, takes the homogeneous vowel.

SOME PRIMITIVE FORMS.

Application of Rules for Vowel and Consonant Changes.

REGULAR NOUN.

I.

- (1.) **כָּפָל** m. s. and pl.
- (2.) **כָּפָל** 9, a and b, from (1.)
- (3.) **כָּפָלִים** 8, b, from (1.)
- (4.) **כָּפָלִי** 9, b, from (3.)
- (5.) **כָּפָלִי** 10, c, from (3.)
- (6.) **כָּפָלִי** 10, c, from (3.)
- (7.) **כָּפָלְבָם** 10, a, from (2.)
- (8.) **כָּפָלְבָם** 10, a, from (4.)

.II.

(1.) **כְּפָלָל** f., s. and pl.

(2.) **כְּפָלָה** 8, b, from (1.)

(3.) **כְּפָלָה** 9, b, from (2.)

(4.) **כְּפָלָת** 8, b, from (1.)

(5.) **כְּפָלָת** 9, b, from (4.)

(6.) **כְּפָלָתִי** 10, b, from (3.)

(7.) **כְּפָלָתִי** 10, b, from (5.)

(8.) **כְּפָלָתָכֶם** 10, a from (3.)

(9.) **כְּפָלָתֵיכֶם** 10, a, from (5.)

.III.

(1.) **כְּפָלָל** dual, masc. and fem.

(2.) **כְּפָלִים** 8, b, from (1.)

(3.) **כְּפָלִי** 9, b, from (2.)

(4.) **כְּפָלִי** 10, d, from (2.)

(5.) **כְּפָלִיכֶם** 10, a, from (3.)

(6.) **כְּפָלִתִים** 8, b, and note from II. (2.)

(7.) **כְּפָלָתִי** 9, b, from (6.)

(8.) **כְּפָלָתִי** 10, d, from (6.)

(9.) **כְּפָלָתִיכֶם** 10, a, from (7.)

SEGOLATE.

I.

(a.) **כְּפָלָה** pr. (1.) **כְּפָלָה** m. s. and pl.

(2.) **כְּפָלִים** 6, from (a.)

(3.) **כְּפָלִי** 9, b and 7, c, from (2) and (1.)

(4.) **כְּפָלִי** 7, a and note, from (1.)

(5.) **כְּפָלִי** 10, c, from (2.)

(6.) **כְּפָלְכֶם** 7, a and note, from (1.)

(7.) **כְּפָלְכֶם** 10, a, from (3.)

II.

(a.) **בְּפָלָל** pr. (1.) **בְּפָלָל** f. s. and pl.

(2.) **בְּפָלָה** 7, b, from (1.)

(3.) **בְּפָלָה**, from (2.)

(4.) **בְּפָלָת** 6, from (a.)

(5.) **בְּפָלָת** 9, b and 7, c, from (4) and (1.)

(6.) **בְּפָלָתִי** 10, b, from (3.)

(7.) **בְּפָלָתִי** 10, b, from (5.)

(8.) **בְּפָלָתָבָם** 10, a, from (3.)

(9.) **בְּפָלָתָיכָם** 10, a, from (5.)

III.

(a.) **בְּפָלָל** pr. (1.) **בְּפָלָל**, dual m. and f.

(2.) **בְּפָלָים** 7, d, from (1.)

(3.) **בְּפָלִי** 7, c, from 1 and (2.)

(4.) **בְּפָלֵי** 10, d, from (2.)

(5.) **בְּפָלִיכֶם** 10, a, from (3.)

(6.) **בְּפָלָתִים** 8, note, from II. (2.)

(7.) **בְּפָלָתִי** 9, b, from (6.)

(8.) **בְּפָלָתִי** 10, d, from (6.)

(9.) **בְּפָלָתִיכֶם** 10, a, from (7.)

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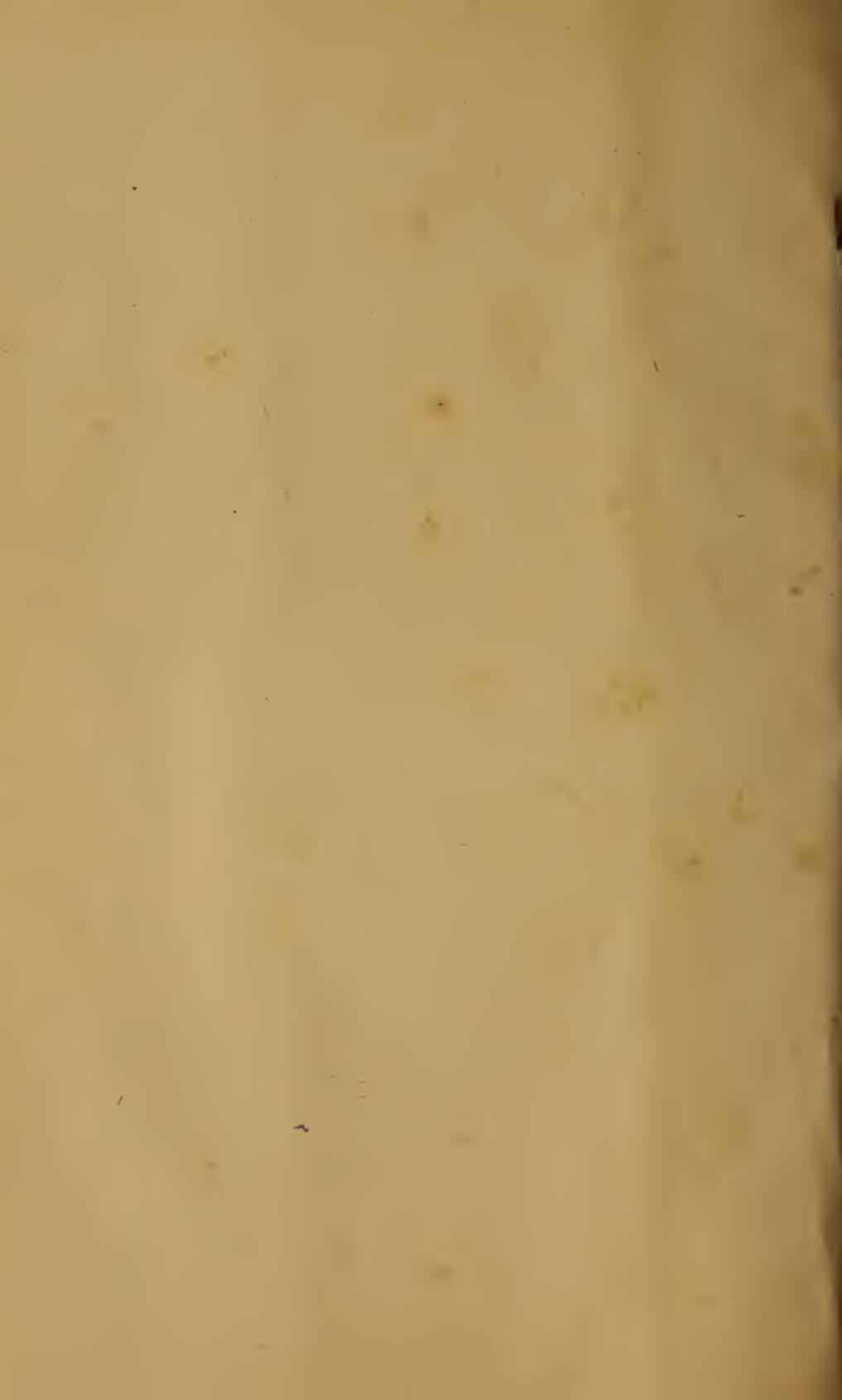
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